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The *Principles of Economics* is a very important contribution to contemporary economic literature. No book so admirably fitted for college classes has yet appeared.

LEONARD STOTT BLAKEY.

Dickinson College.

SIEGFRIED, ANDRÉ, *Democracy in New Zealand*. (Trans. by E. V. Burns.) Pp. xxiii, 398. Price, \$1.75. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1914.

There is a gap of ten years between the publication of the French edition of M. Siegfried's work and the publication of this English translation. The facts and figures are therefore somewhat old. But this detracts very little from the value of the work. The real value, as Mr. William Downie Stewart says in his introduction, is in the "profound insight into the spirit and character of the New Zealand democracy, into the constitution of political parties, and into the attitude of New Zealand toward imperial problems."

New Zealand democracy is an interesting admixture of political radicalism of the opportunistic sort with a social attitude toward wealth and station that smacks of the snobbish. The New Zealand people believe that they have an apostolic mission to humanity to point out the path of social progress. Politically they have a contempt for theories. "At heart, they are probably convinced that politics are not as complicated as they have been made out to be, and that a little courage and decision are all that is required to accomplish the reforms of which Europe is so afraid."

On the imperial question, there is a passion for autonomy; but this is combined with a conviction of the greatness and wisdom of England that makes interpretation difficult. The colony is "a spoilt child which never suffers for its sins, for a helping hand is always there to redeem its faults." The situation is one of security without responsibility. In the field of social and industrial legislation, M. Siegfried says that what the New Zealanders most need is "principle, convictions, reasoned beliefs." Serious scientific study must come as a basis of social action.

Part IV, dealing with society and life, is an exceptionally interesting portion of an altogether brilliant work.

R. C. MCCREA.

University of Pennsylvania.

WELLS, H. G. *Social Forces in England and America*. Pp. 415. Price, \$2. New York: Harper and Brothers, 1914.

This book is composed of a number of essays or papers published originally in England under the title *An Englishman Looks at His World*. The broad range of the author's interests is evident from the subjects covered. He discusses such varied topics as the British Empire, labor unrest and social panaceas, the contemporary novel, English education, motherhood, divorce, sociology.

Herein lies the fatal fault of the book, for the author's broad interests lead him into fields of which he is not master and in which he is scarcely at home. He discusses labor unrest, to take but one illustration, with rare in-

sight but is clearly on foreign ground when he comes to the "so-called science of sociology." The laborer, he says, is beginning to think, thanks to board schools and the cheap press, and is becoming aroused from his former apathetic state. "The essential trouble in our growing labor disorder is the profound distrust which has grown up in the minds of the new generation of workers of either the ability or the good faith of the property-owning, ruling and directing class," and the only escape Wells sees from social democracy lies in an *exaltation of the standard of achievement*.

Defining science as classification measurement, he finds that physics and mathematics, for instance, attain practical results by neglecting the differences in individual traits of the unitary substances (atoms) with which they deal, since in the great number of atoms with which those sciences deal individual differences are lost; but sociology, he says, must take cognizance of these individual differences. "It is, upon any hypothesis, no less than an attempt to bring that vast, complex, unique Being, its subject, into clear true relations with the individual intelligence." "Could you take man by the thousand billion, you could generalize about them as you do about atoms; could you take atoms singly, it may be you would find them as individual as your aunts and cousins." This, he states, is the *minority* belief; and it leads one to doubt his judgment of what constitutes science. "The proper and distinctive method," he says, "of sociology . . . is the creation of utopias."

BRUCE D. MUDGETT.

University of Pennsylvania.

WILLIAMSON, J. A. *Maritime Enterprise, 1485-1558*. Pp. 416. Price, \$1. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1913.

Mr. Williamson has undertaken the difficult task of tracing in detail the history of the great transition period in the rise of the English carrying trade. The present work contains much interesting information, and some important episodes in commercial history are related in full for the first time, but the materials are not handled as well as might be expected.

The notable features of the work are: a discussion of the Cabot voyages resulting in the partial rehabilitation of Sebastian Cabot, the account of the downfall of the Hanse, and the history of English voyages to the Mediterranean. The facts are not always new, in connection with the Cabots little new evidence is brought forward, but the analysis is suggestive. There is new material presented on the struggle of the Hansards to maintain their privileges. The antagonism of the merchant adventurers was clearly the controlling factor in England. The crown was not inclined to suppress or curtail existing privileges, but coming under financial obligations to the merchant adventurers as a company and having as advisors men like Gresham and Cecil who were important members, the crown was gradually led into a policy of avowed hostility which was ultimately fatal to the Hanse. There are many references to the woolen industry and to the trade with the Low Countries in finished and unfinished cloth. It is stated that the "light drapery" came into England only in the latter sixteenth century. It is difficult to be certain of the purport of these passages for there were many stages